

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 FTC-01 STR-04 JUSE-00 /068 W

----- 125261

R 250855Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7181

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 2801

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: JA, US

SUBJ: MEDIA COVERAGE LOCKHEED AFFAIR--FEB 25

REF: TOKYO 2735

1. MAIN TOPICS WERE FEB 24 SEARCHES OF HOUSES, OFFICES OF THOSE IMPLICATED IN LOCKHEED PAYOFFS (TOP FRONTPAGE COVERAGE ALL AM PAPERS) AND SETBACK TO LDP HOPES REACH COMPROMISE WITH OPPOSITION IN ORDER END BUDGET COMMITTEE DEADLOCK. LDP HAD THOUGHT ITS AGREEMENT TO OPPOSITION DEMAND FORRECALL OF WTINESSES FOR MORE TESTIMONY BEFORE FULL LH BUDGET COMMITTEE WORK ON BUDGET. IN FEB. 24 MEETING OF FIVE PARTIES' LH STEERING COMMITTEE. JCP, CGP, AND JSP ADDED DEMAND FOR TESTIMONY BY FORMER PM TNANAKA, LOCKHEED'S KOTCHIAN PLUS EIGHT OTHERS TO EXISITING ONES AND NEGOTIATIONS STOPPED, RESCHEDULED FOR EVENING FEB 25.

2. PM MEDIA REPORT AMBASSADOR TOGO'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND DEPSEC INGERSOLL ON FEB. 24. TOGO REPORTED PRESIDENT LOOKED "GRIM" WHEN LOCKHEED BROUGHT UP, INGERSOLL OFFERED VERY LITTLE WHEN GIVEN MIKI'S REQUEST FOR NAMES. TOGO SAID RELEASE OF NAMES WOULD INVOLVE COMPLEX LEGAL, CONGRESSIONAL, STATE DEPT. PROCEDURES SO CAN'T BE EXPETED SOON. PAPERS, REFERRING TO RECENT KISSINGER AND DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMARKS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ARE GENERALLY OF OPINION USG'S OPPOSITION TO NAME RELEASE

HAS SOFTENED. THEY QUOTE GOJ SOURCES NOTING PROBABLE US POSITION
THAT GOJ WOULD HAVE TO AGREE TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION
IF PROVIDED PENDING ITS SUBSTANTIATION (PRESUMABLY BY
GOJ INVESTIGATION).
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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